

Surah 47 Surah Muhammad ﷺ

MUHAMMAD ﷺ

Surah Ahqaaf proves that the gods whom the Mushrikeen regarded as intercessors have no ability to do anything. Neither do they hear a person's supplication, nor can they respond to it. Now *Surah Muhammad* ﷺ encourages Muslims to fight for the cause of their belief in Towheed.

A SUMMARY OF THE SURAH

The concept of Towheed is discussed at great length up to *Surah Ahqaaf*. The Surahs following this Surah concentrate mainly on Qiyaamah, while also speaking about Towheed because it is pivotal to man's existence. Mention of Jihaad is also made. It would therefore be correct to say that the fifth and final part of the Qur'aan begins with *Surah Muhammad* ﷺ.

Surahs Muhammad ﷺ, *Fatah* and *Hujuraat* all discuss the same basic principles. There are also many Surahs after these that share themes between themselves. While *Surah Muhammad* ﷺ encourages Muslims to fight in Jihaad and *Surah Fatah* contains promises of victory, *Surah Hujuraat* mention certain laws of conduct and etiquette. The link between the three Surahs can be understood by the following phrase: "When you Muslims will fight in Jihaad, Allaah will grant you His promised victory. Thereafter, when you have become victors, you should behave and conduct yourselves according to certain principles of etiquette."

Surah Muhammad ﷺ may be divided into two parts in terms of its subject matter. The first part commences from the beginning of the Surah and concludes at the end of verse 19. The second part begins from verse 20 and terminates at the end of the Surah.

The first part contrasts the qualities of the Mu'mineen to those of the Mushrikeen, detailing the outcome of both parties. It also encourages Muslims to wage Jihaad, adding the reasons for Jihaad as well. This part of the Surah also makes mention of Towheed, for the propagation of which, Jihaad is waged.

The second part reproaches the Munaafiqeen (hypocrites) for their reluctance in physically participating in Jihaad and in contributing to it. The condition of the Munaafiqeen is then detailed at the end of the Surah.

سُوْرَةُ مُحَمَّدٍ نَبِيِّنَا وَهُوَ ثَابِتٌ لَا يَنْتَوِي بِأَرْبَعٍ يُكُوْنُ

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

In the name of Allaah, the Most Compassionate, the Most Merciful

الَّذِينَ كَفَرُوا وَصَدُّوا عَنْ سَبِيلِ اللَّهِ أَصْلَ أَعْمَالِهِمْ ①

1. Allaah will destroy (not reward in the Aakhirah) the (good) actions of those who commit kufr and who prevent (others) from His path (Islam).

وَالَّذِينَ آمَنُوا وَعَمِلُوا الصَّالِحَاتِ وَآمَنُوا بِمَا نُزِّلَ عَلَى مُحَمَّدٍ وَهُوَ الْحَقُّ مِنْ رَبِّهِمْ كَفَّرَ عَنْهُمْ سَيِّئَاتِهِمْ وَأَصْلَحَ بَالَهُمْ ②

2. As for those who have Imaan, who do righteous deeds and who believe in what has been revealed to Muhammad ﷺ, which is the truth from their Rabb, Allaah will cancel (blot out) their sins and rectify their affairs (by giving them the ability to do more good in this world and by granting them Jannah in the Aakhirah).

ذَلِكَ بِأَنَّ الَّذِينَ كَفَرُوا اتَّبَعُوا الْبَاطِلَ وَأَنَّ الَّذِينَ آمَنُوا اتَّبَعُوا الْحَقَّ مِنْ رَبِّهِمْ كَذَلِكَ يَضْرِبُ اللَّهُ لِلنَّاسِ أَمْثَالَهُمْ ③

3. This (difference in treatment) is because the Kuffaar follow falsehood (the ways of kufr, Shirk and sin) while the Mu'mineen follow the truth from their Rabb. In this manner does Allaah give examples for people (so that they may understand).

فَإِذَا لَقِيتُمُ الَّذِينَ كَفَرُوا فَضَرْبَ الرِّقَابِ حَتَّىٰ إِذَا أَتَخْتَرَقُوهُمْ فَشُدُّوا الْوَتَانَ فَمَا مِنْكُمْ مِنْ أُولَئِكَ حَتَّىٰ تَضَعَ الْحَرْبُ أَوْزَارَهُمْ ذَٰلِكَ وَلَوْ يَشَاءُ اللَّهُ لَنتَصَرَّ مِنْهُمْ وَلَكِنْ لَيْسَ لَكُمْ بِعِزٍّ وَالَّذِينَ قَتَلُوا فِي سَبِيلِ اللَّهِ فَلَنْ يُضِلَّ أَعْمَالَهُمْ ④

4. When you confront (face) the Kuffaar (in battle) then strike at their necks. When you have eventually slain them (defeated them in battle), then fasten a tight bond (take the survivors as prisoners of war). Thereafter, (when they are captured) it is either unconditional freedom (for them) or (freedom with) ransom until the war lays down her burdens (until the Kuffaar accept Islam or accept to live under Muslim rule). This is it. If Allaah willed, He could have taken revenge from

وَقَدْ بَيَّنَّا قَوْلَهُ ذَٰلِكَ وَكَانَ حَسْبُ

them (from the Kuffaar by inflicting them with some disaster), **but** (instead of punishing them in this manner, He has commanded the Muslims to wage Jihaad against the Kuffaar because) **this** (Jihaad) **is to test some of you with others** (to test who of the Muslims will fulfil the command for Allaah's pleasure and who of the Kuffaar will realise the truth of Islaam in this manner). **Allaah shall never destroy the deeds of those who are martyred (slain) in His way** (He will reward them in full).

سَيَهْدِيهِمْ وَيُصْلِحُ بَالَهُمْ ⑤

5. Allaah shall shortly convey them to their destination, rectify their affairs (in this world, in the grave and in the Aakhirah)...

وَيُدْخِلُهُمُ الْجَنَّةَ عَرَفَ بَالَهُمْ ⑥

6. ...and admit them into the Jannah which He has introduced (made known) to them (through His Ambiyaa ﷺ and scriptures).

يَا أَيُّهَا الَّذِينَ آمَنُوا إِن تَنْصُرُوا اللَّهَ يَنْصُرْكُمْ وَيُثَبِّتْ أَقْدَامَكُمْ ⑦

7. O you who have Imaan! If you will assist (in the propagation of the Deen of) **Allaah, Allaah shall assist you** (in all your affairs) **and keep your feet firm** (against all opposition).

وَالَّذِينَ كَفَرُوا فَتَعْسًا لَهُمْ وَأَضَلَّ أَعْمَالَهُمْ ⑧

8. May destruction befall those who commit kufr and Allaah shall destroy their actions (by not rewarding them in the Aakhirah for any of the good deeds they do).

ذَلِكَ بِأَنَّهُمْ كَرِهُوا مَا أُنْزِلَ اللَّهُ فَاحْبَطَ أَعْمَالَهُمْ ⑨

9. This is because they dislike what Allaah revealed, because of which He lays their deeds to waste.

أَفَلَمْ يَسِيرُوا فِي الْأَرْضِ فَيَنْظُرُوا كَيْفَ كَانَ عَاقِبَةُ الَّذِينَ مِنْ قَبْلِهِمْ دَمَّرَ اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِمُ الْكَافِرِينَ
أَمْثَلَهُمْ ⑩

10. Have they not travelled on earth and seen what was the end of those before them? Allaah annihilated (completely destroyed) them and the Kaafiroon shall have the same (fate).

ذَلِكَ بِأَنَّ اللَّهَ مَوْلَى الَّذِينَ آمَنُوا وَأَنَّ الْكَافِرِينَ لَا مَوْلَى لَهُمْ ⑪

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11. This is because Allaah is the Protecting Friend of the Mu'mineen and because the Kaafiroon have no protecting friend.

إِنَّ اللَّهَ يُدْخِلُ الَّذِينَ آمَنُوا وَعَمِلُوا الصَّالِحَاتِ جَنَّاتٍ تَجْرَى مِنْ تَحْتِهَا الْأَنْهَارُ وَالَّذِينَ كَفَرُوا يَتَمَتَّعُونَ
وَيَأْكُلُونَ كَمَا تَأْكُلُ الْأَنْعَامُ وَالنَّارُ مَطْوًى لَهُمْ ﴿١٧﴾

12. Allaah shall certainly admit those who have Imaan and who carry out good deeds into Jannaat beneath which rivers (streams) flow. As for the Kaafiroon, they enjoy themselves (only in the world) and eat like the animals eat (without any concern for the Aakhirah). The Fire shall be their abode (final destination).

وَكَلَيْتُمْ مِنَ قَوْمٍ هِيَ أَشَدُّ قُوَّةً مِنْ قَوْمِكِ الْبَتَىٰ أَخْرَجْتِكُمْ مِنْ دِينِكُمْ وَأَنْتُمْ كَافِرُونَ ﴿١٨﴾

13. (Cautioning the Mushrikeen of Makkah against opposing Rasulullaah ﷺ, Allaah addresses him saying,) Many were the (people of) towns that were more powerful than (the people of) your town (Makkah) which drove you out. (However, despite their immense strength and resources) We destroyed them and they had none to assist them.

أَفَمَنْ كَانَ عَلَىٰ بَيِّنَةٍ مِنْ رَبِّهِ كَمَنْ زُيِّنَ لَهُ سُوءُ عَمَلِهِ وَاتَّبَعُوا أَهْوَاءَهُمْ ﴿١٩﴾

14. Can the one who is steadfast on a proof (clear way) from his Rabb (because of which he has firm faith in Towheed) be like those whose evil actions have been beautified for them and who follow their whims? (The two cannot be the same because the first is destined for Jannah while the latter is heading for Jahannam.)

مَثَلُ الْجَنَّةِ الَّتِي وُعِدَ الْمُتَّقُونَ فِيهَا أَنْهَارٌ مِنْ مَاءٍ غَيْرِ آسِنٍ وَأَنْهَارٌ مِنْ لَبَنٍ لَمْ يَتَغَيَّرَ طَعْمُهُ وَأَنْهَارٌ مِنْ
خَمْرٍ لَذَّةٍ لِلشَّارِبِينَ وَأَنْهَارٌ مِنْ عَسَلٍ مُصَفًّى وَلَهُمْ فِيهَا مِنْ كُلِّ الثَّمَرَاتِ وَمَغْفِرَةٌ مِنْ رَبِّهِمْ كَمَنْ
هُوَ خَالِدٌ فِي النَّارِ وَسُقُوا مَاءً حَمِيمًا فَقَطَّعَ أَمْعَاءَهُمْ ﴿٢٠﴾

15. The description of the Jannah that the people of Taqwa have been promised is that it has rivers of water that never putrefy (and will never be contaminated nor deteriorate in quality), rivers of milk (perfect, delicate food) the taste of which never spoils (never goes off), rivers of (pure) wine (for joy and delight) that is extremely palatable to those who drink it (without intoxicating them) and rivers of the purest honey. (For all ailments) The people there shall also have every type of fruit and forgiveness from their Rabb. Can these people ever be like those who will live forever in the Fire and who are given boiling water to drink which tears (pulls down) their internal organs to shreds?

وَمِنْهُمْ مَنْ يَسْتَمِعُ إِلَيْكَ حَتَّىٰ إِذَا خَرَجُوا مِنْ عِنْدِكَ قَالُوا لِلَّذِينَ أُوتُوا الْعِلْمَ مَاذَا قَالَ آنِفًا أُولَٰئِكَ الَّذِينَ
طَعَنَ اللَّهُ عَلَىٰ قُلُوبِهِمْ وَاتَّبَعُوا أَهْوَاءَهُمْ ﴿٢١﴾

16. (O Rasulullaah ﷺ) **There are those people (the Munaafiqeen) who (appear to) listen to you intently (but with inattentive hearts) until they depart from your presence and then say (with ridicule) to those (Muslims) who have been granted knowledge, "What did he (Rasulullaah ﷺ) say just now?" (Placing no importance in it) These are the ones on whose hearts Allaah has set a seal (because of their scepticism and ridiculing) and who follow their whims. (futile wishes)**

وَالَّذِينَ اهْتَدَوْا زَادْهُمْ هُدًى وَاتَّبَعَتْهُمْ ذُرِّيَّتُهُمْ ۖ

17. As for those who are rightly guided (to Islam), Allaah shall increase their guidance (undersanding) and grant them their Taqwa. (piety)

فَهَلْ يَنْظُرُونَ إِلَّا السَّاعَةَ أَنْ تَأْتِيَهُمْ بَغْتَةً فَقَدْ جَاءَ أَشْرَاطُهَا ۚ فَأَنَّى لَهُمْ إِذَا جَاءَتْهُمْ ذِكْرُهُمْ ۖ

18. They (the Kuffaar) now seem only to await Qiyaamah to come to them suddenly (before they accept Imaan). Undoubtedly, its signs (such as the coming of Rasulullaah ﷺ) have already arrived (so Qiyaamah is imminent). How will they be reminded (to believe in it) when Qiyaamah does dawn on them? (When Qiyaamah arrives, it will be sudden, offering people no chance to repent.)

فَاعْلَمُوا أَنَّهُ لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا اللَّهُ وَاسْتَغْفِرُوا لِذَنبِكُمْ وَلِلْمُؤْمِنِينَ وَالْمُؤْمِنَاتِ ۚ وَاللَّهُ يَعْلَمُ مُتَقَلَّبَكُمْ وَمَثْوَاكُمْ ۖ

19. Know well that none is worthy of worship but Allaah and seek forgiveness for your shortcomings and for the Mu'mineen men and women. Allaah has knowledge of your (physical and spiritual) movements and your places of rest (Allaah is Aware of everything you do).

وَيَقُولُ الَّذِينَ آمَنُوا لَوْلَا نُزِّلَتْ سُورَةٌ ۚ فَإِذَا أُنزِلَتْ سُورَةٌ مُحْكَمَةٌ وَذُكِرَ فِيهَا الْقِتَالُ رَأَيْتَ الَّذِينَ فِي قُلُوبِهِمْ مَرَضٌ يَنْظُرُونَ إِلَيْكَ نَظَرَ الْمَغْشَىٰ عَلَيْهِ مِنَ الْمَوْتِ فَأُولَٰئِكَ لَهُمْ

20. (Because of their eagerness to hear more Qur'aan and practise more of the Deen,) Those who have Imaan (constantly) say, "Why is a Surah not revealed (to permit Jihaad)?" When a strait forward Surah is revealed in which mention is made of fighting (in Jihaad), you will see those with a disease (hypocrisy) in their hearts looking (gazing) at you with the look of a person who is overcome by the swoon of death (because of their cowardice and their fear of death). Their misfortune is still to come (when they suffer punishment either in this world or only in the Akhirah).

طَاعَةٌ وَقَوْلٌ مَّعْرُوفٌ ۚ فَإِذَا عَزَمَ الْأَمْرُ فَلَوْصِدُوا لِلَّهِ ۚ لَئِنْ كَانَ خَيْرًا لَّهُمْ ۖ

21. Obedience (to Allaah's commands) and (speaking only) good words (are best for them). Then when the command is confirmed (when the preparations for Jihaad are complete) it will be best for them if they are true to Allaah (if they forsake their hypocrisy and remain staunch and sincere Muslims).

فَهَلْ عَسَيْتُمْ إِنْ تَوَلَّيْتُمْ أَنْ تُفْسِدُوا فِي الْأَرْضِ وَتَقَطَّعُوا أَرْحَامَكُمْ ۖ

22. (Addressing the Munaafiqeen, Allaah says,) **It is possible (expected) that if you are given authority (to rule over others), you would spread corruption on earth and (let alone harming others, you would even) sever family ties.**

أُولَٰئِكَ الَّذِينَ لَعَنَهُمُ اللَّهُ فَاصْمَهُمْ وَأَعْمَىٰ أَبْصَارَهُمْ ﴿٢٢﴾

23. These (Munaafiqeen) are the people whom Allaah has cursed (cast far from His mercy because of their pride and stubbornness), has deafened (to the truth) and made blind (so that they do not see what is right).

أَفَلَا يَتَذَكَّرُونَ الْقُرْآنَ أَمْ عَلَىٰ قُلُوبٍ أَقْفَالُهَا ﴿٢٣﴾

24. Do they not ponder (reflect) over the Qur'aan or are there locks on their hearts (which prevent the guidance of the Qur'aan from entering their hearts because of their pride and insolence) ?

إِنَّ الَّذِينَ ارْتَدُّوا عَلَىٰ أَدْبَارِهِمْ مِّنْ بَعْدِ مَا تَبَيَّنَ لَهُمُ الْهُدَىٰ الشَّيْطَانُ سَوَّلَ لَهُمْ وَأَمْلَىٰ لَهُمْ ﴿٢٤﴾

25. Indeed those who have turned their backs after guidance (the proof of Touheed and truth of Islaam) has been made clear to them, Shaytaan has beautified (their sins) for them and prolonged their hopes (because of which they never repent).

ذَٰلِكَ بِأَنَّهُمْ قَالُوا الَّذِينَ كَرِهُوا مَا نَزَّلَ اللَّهُ سَنِيْعًا فِي بَعْضِ الْأُمْرِ وَاللَّهُ يَعْلَمُ أَسْرَارَهُمْ ﴿٢٥﴾

26. This (turning away from the truth after it was made clear to them) is because they (the Munaafiqeen) say to those who detest Allaah's revelation (because of jealousy, referring to the Jews), "We shall follow you in some matters (in opposing Rasulullaah ﷺ)." Allaah has knowledge of their secret talks (between the Jews and hypocrites and will punish them for it).

فَكَيْفَ إِذَا تَوَفَّيْنَاهُمُ الْمَلَائِكَةُ يَضْرِبُونَ وُجُوهَهُمْ وَأَدْبَارَهُمْ ﴿٢٦﴾

27. What will be their condition when the angels shall draw out their souls while smiting (beating) their faces and backs?

ذَٰلِكَ بِأَنَّهُمْ اتَّبَعُوا مَا اسْحَطَ اللَّهُ وَكَرِهُوا رِضْوَانَهُ فَاحْبَطَ أَعْمَالَهُمْ ﴿٢٧﴾

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28. This (punishment) is because they pursue (do) the things that anger Allaah and they dislike (doing things that earn) His pleasure. So Allaah lays (even) their (good) actions to waste (because of their kufr and they will therefore not receive any rewards for this in the Akhirah).

أَمْ حَسِبَ الَّذِينَ فِي قُلُوبِهِم مَّرَضٌ أَن لَّنْ يُخْرِجَ اللَّهُ أَضْغَانَهُمْ ﴿٢٨﴾

29. Do those with a disease (hypocrisy) in their hearts think that Allaah will never

expose (divulge) their malice (thereby allowing all the Muslims to recognise them as Munaafiqeen) ?

وَلَوْ شَاءَ إِلَّا نَبَيُّكُمْ فَاعْرِفُوهُمْ سَيُعْلَمُونَ فِي لَحْنِ الْقَوْلِ وَاللَّهُ يَعْلَمُ أَعْمَالَكُمْ ﴿٣٠﴾

30. If We will, We would show them (the Munaafiqeen) to you (O Rasoolullah ﷺ) and you would recognise them by their features. (Even if We do not reveal their identities to you,) You will surely recognise them by their manner of speech (because they will be ones always objecting and mocking). Allaah has knowledge of their actions (and will punish them accordingly).

وَلَنَبْذُلَنَّكُمْ حَتَّى نَعْلَمَ الْمُجْتَهِدِينَ مِنْكُمْ وَالصَّابِرِينَ وَنَبْلُو أَخْبَارَكُمْ ﴿٣١﴾

31. We shall certainly test you (Muslims) until We ascertain (know) those of you who (sincerely) strive (to uplift Allaah's Deen) and those who are steadfast and until We examine your condition (whether you are sincere in all the acts of Islaam you are required to fulfil).

إِنَّ الَّذِينَ كَفَرُوا وَصَدُّوا عَنْ سَبِيلِ اللَّهِ وَشَاقُّوا الرَّسُولَ مِنْ بَعْدِ مَا تَبَيَّنَ لَهُمُ الْهُدَىٰ ۚ لَن يَضُرُّوا اللَّهَ شَيْئًا وَسَيُجْطَ أَعْمَالُهُمْ ﴿٣٢﴾

32. Indeed those who commit kufr, who forbid (others) from Allaah's path (Islaam) and who oppose the Rasool ﷺ after guidance (Touheed and the truth of Islaam) has been made clear to them cannot harm Allaah at all (because the harm will affect only them). Allaah will soon cancel their (good) actions (by not rewarding them in the Aakhirah).

يَا أَيُّهَا الَّذِينَ آمَنُوا أَطِيعُوا اللَّهَ وَأَطِيعُوا الرَّسُولَ وَلَا تُبْطِلُوا أَعْمَالَكُمْ ﴿٣٣﴾

33. O you who have Imaan! Obey Allaah, obey the Rasool ﷺ and do not invalidate (spoil) your (good) deeds (by failing to complete them, by doing them incorrectly or by doing them to please someone other than Allaah).

إِنَّ الَّذِينَ كَفَرُوا وَصَدُّوا عَنْ سَبِيلِ اللَّهِ ثُمَّ مَاتُوا وَهُمْ كُفَّارُونَ ۖ لَن يَغْفِرَ اللَّهُ لَهُمْ ﴿٣٤﴾

34. Verily those who commit kufr, who forbid (others) from Allaah's path (Islaam) and then die as Kuffaar, Allaah shall never forgive them (and they shall suffer forever in Jahannam).

فَلَا تَهِنُوا وَتَدْعُوا إِلَى السَّلَاحِ وَأَنْتُمْ الْأَعْلَوْنَ ۚ وَاللَّهُ مَعَكُمْ وَلَنْ يَتَرَكَمُ أَعْمَالَكُمْ ﴿٣٥﴾

35. So (O Muslims) do not lose courage (to fight the Kuffaar), do not call for a truce (peace merely to avoid Jihaa because of cowardice) and you will be dominant (over the Kuffaar). Allaah is with you (and will always assist you) and will never devalue your deeds (but will grant you the full reward for every good you do. Just be patient and persevere and obey orders of Islaam).

إِنَّمَا الْحَيَاةُ الدُّنْيَا لَعِبٌ وَلَهُوَ إِنْ تَوَمَّنَا وَتَتَّقُوا يُؤْتِكُمْ أَجُورَكُمْ وَلَا يَسْأَلْكُمْ أَمْوَالَكُمْ ﴿٣٦﴾

36. The life of this world is mere play and amusement (it has no real value and will soon come to an end, it is an entertaining diversion). **If you have Imaan and Taqwa, (piety) He (Allaah) will grant you your rewards** (in the Aakhirah) **and will not ask you for your wealth** (because He has no need for it. When you are asked to spend for the cause of Deen, it is you who will reap the benefits because Allaah is Independent and needs nothing).

إِنْ يَسْأَلْكُمْوهَا فَيَحْفَظْكُمْ تَجَنَّبُوا وَخُجِرَ أَضْغَانَكُمْ ﴿٣٧﴾

37. If Allaah had to ask you for your wealth and demand it (all) from you, (most of) you would have become miserly (stingy) and (in this manner) He would have exposed your (hidden) dissatisfaction.

هَآأَنْتُمْ هَآؤَآءُ تَدْعُونَ لِنُفَقِّقُوا فِي سَبِيلِ اللَّهِ فَمِنْكُمْ مَنْ يَبْخُلُ وَمَنْ يَبْخُلْ فَإِنَّمَا يَبْخُلْ عَن نَفْسِهِ وَاللَّهُ الْغَنِيُّ وَأَنْتُمُ الْفُقَرَاءُ وَإِنْ تَتَوَلَّوْا يَسْتَبْدِلْ قَوْمًا غَيْرَكُمْ ثُمَّ لَا يَكُونُوا أَمْثَالَكُمْ ﴿٣٨﴾

38. Behold! You (Muslims) are the very ones who are summoned (called) to spend in Allaah's way but there are those among you who are miserly (who do not give). Those who are miserly practise miserliness to their own detriment. Allaah is Independent and you are all needy (totally dependent on Him). If you turn away (from obeying Him), He (will not at all be affected because He) will substitute you with another nation who will not be like yourselves (but who will do exactly as He orders).